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FORT MEADE — The Bureau of Land Management, South Dakota field Office will soon begin burning slash piles created last summer in the Grizzly Gulch fire area. Dates for pile burning are dependent upon weather conditions. The specific prescription calls for snow on the ground as well as wind and drift conditions that will minimize smoke impacts to the communities of Deadwood and Lead. Burning will only take place when smoke is carried up and away from the communities. Snow must be present to minimize any spread from the piles.

The South Dakota Field Office has engaged the South Dakota Wildland Fire Suppression Division's Black Hat suppression crew to assist with the burning of the piles.

There are approximately 1,000 acres of piles to burn. One half of the piles will be burned this winter, with the remaining to be burned during the winter of 2005-2006.

Please call the Fort Meade Fuels Office with any questions at (605) 720-0747 or the South Dakota Field Office at (605) 892-7000.

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